Action Plan for the Development of Hilly States

5462. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to prepare any action plan to encourage the development of tourism in the Hilly States of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (c) The Department of Tourism has set up a Task Force for the development of tourism in the Himalayan Region which includes North-Eastern States. The terms of reference of the Task Force are :—

(a) To study the issues relating to tourism development in the Himalayan Region;

(b) To draw specific schemes/projects and circuits for the development of tourism in an integrated manner in the Himalayan Region; and

(c) To assist the State Government to obtain financial resources for implementation of the schemes.

[Translation]

E.S.I. Hospitals and Dispensaries

5463. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN :
SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of E.S.I. Hospitals/dispensaries set up in the country, State/Union Territory-wise, alongwith their locations;

(b) whether the Government propose to upgrade certain hospitals/dispensaries out of them and also propose to open more ESI hospitals/dispensaries in some States;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of E.S.I. hospitals/dispensaries functioning in rented private buildings, so far; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) As on 31.3.1996 there were 124 ESI Hospitals and 1437 dispensaries functioning in different parts of the Country. As the number of dispensaries/hospitals is quite large it is difficult to furnish information regarding their individual locations.

(b) and (c) The ESIC has agreed, in principle, to upgrade/expand 2 hospitals in Punjab and one each in West Bengal, Assam and Gujarat. The ESIC has almost upgraded ESI Dispensary, Bhubaneswar into a Specialist Centre. Another proposal for conversion of ESI Dispensary, Dhenkanal into a Diagnostic Centre with 10 detention beds has also been received by the ESI Corporation from the Govt. of Orissa. There are 22 ESI Hospitals at various stages of construction. The ESIC has also got proposal to open 18 new dispensaries in different states.

(d) and (e) No ESI Hospital is functioning in a rented building. A statement showing details of dispensaries functioning in rented buildings is enclosed.

STATEMENT

DETAILS OF DISPENSARIES FUNCTIONING IN RENTED BUILDINGS

S.No.	Name of the State	No. of Dispensaries
1.	Andhra Pradesh	105
2.	Assam	24
3.	Bihar	51
4.	Chandigarh	2
5.	Delhi	20
6.	Goa	2
7.	Gujarat	41
8.	Haryana	57
9.	Himachal Pradesh	5
10.	Karnataka	110
11.	Kerala	101
12.	Madhya Pradesh	41
13.	Maharashtra	58
14.	Meghalaya	1
15.	Orissa	41
16.	Pondicherry	9
17.	Punjab	34
18.	Rajasthan	34
19.	Tamil Nadu	97
20.	Uttar Pradesh	76
21.	West Bengal	25
22.	Jammu & Kashmir	Not available.